

AD-A045 521

ARMY MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION AGENCY WAS--ETC F/G 6/12  
TESTING VACUUM MATTRESSES, FINAL REPORT (ERPROBUNG VON VAKUUM-M--ETC(U)

AUG 77 SCHNEGGENBURGER  
USAMIIA-K-8358-E

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314

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AD A045521

Number: *(14)* USAMIIA TRANSLATION  
USAMIIA-K-8358-E

Date Completed: *(11)* 31 Aug 1977

Language: *West* German

Geographic Area:

English Title:

*(6)* TESTING VACUUM MATTRESSES, FINAL REPORT  
(Erprobung von Vakuum-Matratzen, Abschlussbericht)

Foreign Title:

Author:

*(10)* Schneggenburger

*(12)* 3p.

Source Document:

Pages Translated:

2 pp

Publisher:

*(21)* Trans. of report from  
Federal Office for Military Technology and  
Procurement (BWB) *West Germany 43p.*  
7 May 1976, Coblenz

Date/Place Publication:

Distribution Statement:

Approved for public release;  
distribution unlimited

DDC  
RECEIVED  
OCT 26 1977  
REGULATED

AD NO.  
DDC FILE COPY

449112

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FEDERAL OFFICE FOR MILITARY TECHNOLOGY AND PROCUREMENT (BWB)

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5400 Coblenz 1, P.O.B. 7360

To:

The Medical Office of the Bundeswehr  
- III 2 -  
Platenenweg 29  
5300 Bonn-Beuel  
(Use with reply) Reference BAIV 2 Az 90-6515

Direct Dial No. 400-3483  
Coblenz, 7 May 1976

Testing Vacuum Mattresses

Here: Final Report

1. BWB - BA IV 2 - Ref. No. 90-65-30 of 9 July 1976
2. BWB - BA IV 2 - Ref. No. 90-65-15 of 17 December 1975

In accordance with the resolution in the third meeting of the Study Group "Development and Procurement of Medical Supplies", the vacuum mattresses ~~presently~~ on the market ~~should be~~ tested by the service components for their medical-oriented application. ↑

Test facilities for the service components Army and Air Force were the following:

- a. Mountain Medical Battalion 8, Murnau.
- b. Air Force Medical Squadron, LTG 61, Penzing.

The Academy of Medical Service and Sanitation of the Bundeswehr was in charge of testing.

The mattresses were tested by the Navy service component by Destroyer Squadron 1.

As it turned out, it was not possible for these mattresses to correspond to medical-oriented requirements. For this reason, changes were undertaken on the vacuum mattresses and tests were again conducted by the Academy for Medical Service and Sanitation of the Bundeswehr. The Navy service component waived another testing operation owing to the fact that the required changes were not feasible and were not to be recommended for employment in the whole Bundeswehr.

Three different models were made available for the second testing operation.

These involved the following designs, all of which were provided with an encircling retaining line.

Dimensions: length: ca. 2140 mm.  
width: ca. 750 mm.

The dimensions are kept such that sufficient immobilization is given and still not excessively project beyond the mattress.

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1. Model of the Firm Soenngen

This involves a box shape. The covering material used lacks elasticity and for this reason during the exhaust operation it produces heavy folds which are disturbing for a casualty.

2. Model of the Firm Laerdal

This likewise involves a box shape. In addition, the mattress is provided with a covering. The encircling stay rope is sewed onto the covering which can, with a heavy load, lead to damages of the covering.

3. Model of the Firm Firm

This involves a design which is simply produced. The covering material is quite flexible and is well adapted to the body shapes and can be easily molded.

As it turned out, the model of the firm Firm now extensively corresponds to the medically-oriented requirements.

In addition, there is a requirement for an exhaust pump which can cope with the loads. The covering material must also be capable of basically being sealed with a patch kit of commercial quality

Insofar as the vacuum mattress with its design in accordance with the inclosure, I do declare its "technical maturity". This version is nevertheless evaluated negatively by the Navy service component for employment on ships. In this case, a vacuum mattress is required which is firmly installed in an ambulance hammock.

For:

[Signature]

Schneggenburger

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